

In response to C/SR's note I told him  
orally on 18 Sept that I did not feel  
para 6 of IN 75963 need be sent to  
Commission. ~~Para 6~~ Info in it  
was in diary + had been publicized

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE 2.

SECRET

18 SEP 1964

R1

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM : HELSINKI

ACTION: SR 7

INFO : WE 6, CI, CI/OPS, CI/IC 2, F, VR

ROUTING			
1	WE	4	B
2	WE	5	C
3	C	6	A

SECRET 171420Z

DIR CITE HELS 2681

REDWOOD

REF HELS 2667

(IN 68087)

See to Name  
Commission?

17 SEP 64 IN 75963

1. AT INVITATION OF FELIX DMITREYEVICH KARASEV (201-736991), CLASTONBURY AND NEW AMERICAN VICE CONSUL HARRISON SHERWOOD HAD LUNCH WITH KARASEV AND VIKTOR VLADIMIROVICH TARATUNKIN (201-330231) ON 14 SEPT. DATE OBVIOUSLY SET UP TO FEEL OUT SHERWOOD, WHO SPOKE FINNISH WITH TARATUNKIN, THEIR ONLY COMMON LANGUAGE.

2. KARASEV PROPOSED HE AND CLASTONBURY GO ON A "DU" (INFORMAL YOU) BASIS. WE ACCEPTED AND FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH TARATUNKIN. SHERWOOD PROPOSED SIMILAR TREATMENT AND WAS NOT REFUSED THIS "HONOR", ALTHOUGH IT APPEARED SOVTS WERE NOT PREPARED FOR THIS.

3. CLASTONBURY MADE TWO WAGERS ON THE OLYMPIC GAMES WITH ABOVE SOVIETS WHICH WILL NECESSITATE TWO DRINKING PARTIES. A THIRD PARTY IS EXPECTED WITH BIRTH OF TARATUNKIN'S CHILD IN NOVEMBER.

4. KARASEV SAID HE GOING ON HOME LEAVE TO SOCHI FOR ONE MONTH ON 19 SEPT THUS CORROBORATING HIS WIFE'S REMARKS REPORTED IN REF. IN QUIET CONVERSATION, NOT OVERHEARD BY TARATUNKIN, KARASEV STARTED TO TELL US ABOUT HIS FEELINGS ON FRIENDLY RELATIONS. REMARKED THAT

IT WAS UNFORTUNATE TSAR NICHOLAS II COUL<sup>LD</sup>  
NOT KEEP UP WITH TIMES

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201-830231

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SECRET

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Document Number

865-367

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**SECRET**

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TOHMI INSTITUTE  
ST. JAMES AVE. S. S. 100

6. KARASEV DISCUSSED OSWALD CASE AND ASKED OUR OPINION. WE SAID THAT WARREN COMMISSION'S REPORT WOULD SOON BE OUT WITH ALL THE FACTS, BUT PERSONALLY WE HAD SOME RESERVATIONS AS TO WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO OSWALD DURING HIS STAY IN THE USSR. KARASEV CAUGHT THE IMPLICATION AND REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE IF OSWALD HAD BEEN IN CHINA BUT NOT IN THE SOVIET UNION. HE SAID OSWALD HAD ONLY BEEN A DILETTANTE IN MINSK AND APPARENTLY HAD SOME OTHER WOMEN THERE BEFORE <sup>IF HE MARRIED.</sup> ~~3. 4482.~~ KARASEV THEN SAID HE COULD NOT HELP BUT BELIEVE THAT RUBY WAS TOOL OF "REACTIONARY FORCES"

**SECRET**

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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AND COULD NOT SEE HOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR RUBY TO HAVE SHOT OSWALD WITHOUT ASSISTANCE OF SOME U.S. OFFICIALS. WE TRIED DEBUNK THIS IMPRESSION, BUT KARASEV HELD TO HIS VIEWS.

S E C R E T

\*INFO ON ACTIVITIES AT PARTY.

SECRET